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THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from the general public on any subject po-litical, religious, educational, or social so long as they do not contain any personal

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith. Advertisements for insertion in the cur rent week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1892.

PULPIT AND PEW.

We have received the following com munication and willingly give it place in our columns:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: I thank THE CITIZEN for publishing last week Dr. Ballantine's sermon. Many readers have been instructed and helped by it. The opening part touching the controverted questions about Genesis, its authorship, interpretations, etc., was not unsuited to the pulpit. On the contrary it gave interest to the sermon and made the body of it more impressive and effective. These controverted questions are up and will down, in the church any more than out of it. People are thinking, reading, and talking about them. They are important. If the pulpit ignores them, the pulpit will lose in influence and power for good. Whatever difference of opinion may exist about Dr. Ballantine's utterances on these questionable points, none can exist as to the admirable spirit and tone of them. The Doctor was not unguarded in what he said; kept rather on the conservative side, though accepting the view that Moses wrote or compiled from more than one document or account. The fearless and candid treatment of these questiens is to be commended; and the fact that there is difference of opinion about them is no reason why the pulpit should let them alone. Bloomfield congregations will not be offended by the reverent discussion of disputed Biblical topics, bearing on Christian doctrine and Christian life. Congregations will be sure to listen to such discussions with eager interest, if conducted in the style Dr. Ballantine used, in the sermon published in .THE CITIZEN and in the equally able sermon of the Sunday morn-

ing following.

We agree in the main with our correspondent. We agree with him in his appreciation of the printed sermon, repeating what we said last week, that it was thoughtful and timely. Man's lowly speak. origin and man's lofty destiny are set forth in it with striking effect. The higher criticism, as it is called, does not differ very much from traditional orthodoxy in making us start from an unpleasantly low level. It may not agree with old orthodoxy about the circumstances, but it does not question or doubt the substantial fact. The story of Eden our Catechism teaches us was an actual occurrence historically true in all the details pictured in Genesis. The more prevalent, and we think certainly the better, opinion now is that the account is not to be taken as literally true. The Catechism view of it is destined we doubt not to go out, and the whole account, like many other accounts in the Old Testament, will be accepted by intelligent Christians as allegorical, poetical, symbolical. But this we say does not prevent us from recognizing what science teaches as well as the Scriptures, namely, the low estate from which we have come. We are none the less, but rather the more, disposed, if not to look back with grief and shame on our original, at any rate to be humble and teachable when we think of it, and so while on the first point the higher criticism loses nothing of instructiveness, its doctrine of Biblical interpretation and authority gives us on the second point an infinitely more helpful, inspiring, ennobling idea and expectation of what man, all men, may be-

What Dr. Ballantine's views of the new theology are we do not know. But the spirit and tone of the sermon, of which our correspondent writes approvingly, are good; well-fitted to do good to all hearers and readers who are in quest of righteousness and truth, who are seekers after God. This is the object and purpose of preaching. How far this end and aim of preaching can be attained by discussions in the pulpit of disputed Biblical questions our correspondent does not point out. It is not easy to say. Conditions, circumstances, times, and seasons must be considered. But of one thing we are confident, and that is that the pulpit should not be afraid of the pews. It should be free to speak the truth about the Bible and not give reason to those in the pews to say or to suspect that it has not the courage of its convictions. We agree with our correspondent in believing that Bloomfield is a good place and a safe place to be candid in.

### THE MILLS MEETINGS.

HOW THEIR ANNIVERSARY WAS OBSERV. ED BY BLOOMFIELDERS.

A Large Gathering in the First Presbyterian Church-Good Results from Mr. Mille's Visit.

That it is possible to hold a "Mills Meeting" in this town without the presence of Messrs. Mil's and Greenwood was demonstrated on Thursday night, when the Old Church was filled with one of those large assemblages which marked the memorable meetings of a year ago. The meeting on Thursday night was termed an anniversary celebration of the Mills meetings. The full seating capacity of the church was taken up. A large chorus led by Mr. Theodore Ward sang the well-remembered airs from the Mills edition of Gospel Hymns. Mrs. Eallantine presided at the

The Rev. Charles A. Cook of the Baptist Church, the Rev. George A. Paul of Westminster Church, the Rev. Elbert Clement of the Watsessing M. E. Church, the Rev. R. B. Collins of the Park M. E. Church, and the Rev. Frank J. Goodwin of the Glen Ridge Congregational Church occupied seats on the pulpit platform with the Rev. Dr. H. W. Ballantine.

The meeting opened with the singing of hymn No. 17, "Jesus Saves," followed with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Clement. Dr. Ballantine read a Scripture lesson from the thirty-fifth chapter of Genesis, in which the story of Jacob at Bethel is told. An appropriate application of the story was made. Like Jacob, many present a year ago under the influence of the spirit saw visions and felt that God was speaking to them. They were at Bethel for the first time. In the year which had elapsed many of them had experienced troubles, and it was fitting that like Jacob when in sore distress they should again come to Bethel and experience a renewal of the influences of the spirit and the goodness of God.

At the conclusion of the Scripture reading the meeting was made an open one for testimony, song and prayer.

The Rev. Mr. Paul in his remarks referred to the associations of a year ago, which, he said, became more tender with the flight of time. The past year had been one of the most blessed of his life, due to the powerful awakening of a

The Rev. Mr. Collins said the memories that gathered around him on the present occasion were pleasant indeed He looked back to a year ago when they sang together, prayed together, wept together, and were thrilled together as they listened to the man who preached in this house. Mr. Collins said he had had occasion for rejoicing ever since, and had been nearer to God ever since. He referred to that memorable Tuesday when the places of business were closed. and the whole day was given over to religious service and they had a Sabbath day in the middle of the week, so to

The Rev. Mr. Cook said: "What a grand, blessed anniversary this is to many souls in this audience to-night." Many were rejoicing to-night as they looked back to just one year ago when in an assemblage like the present they stood up for Jesus for the first time. Mr. Cook made an earnest exhortation to those who had been moved in the Spirit a year ago, but who had not been converted.

At the conclusion of Mr. Cook's appeal some one in the audience suggested that all who could still say that they felt the blessed influence of the meetings of year ago be requested to rise. Dr. Ballantine put the question, and whole audience with but few exceptions arose. It was a solemn and impressive

The Rev. Mr. Goodwin said he was glad of the privilege of expressing his gratitude to God for this place. He said that the Scripture reading of the evening was very appropriate. Many present like Jacob saw visions in this place. A beautiful thought to him on this anniversary occasion was the fact that it was the anniversary of so many spiritual birthdays.

The Rev. Mr. Lockwood praised God for the spirit of union that had resulted from the Mills meetings.

Thomas P. Day spoke of the blessed influences resulting from the meetings from the fact that it had given the people and pastors of the different churches a chance to get acquainted with one another.

Many other testimonies were offered bearing witness to the permanent and lasting spiritual benefits resulting from

the meetings of a year ago. Cards were distributed in the audience for signature by those who desired consultation with any of the pastors on spiritual matters. The Rev. Mr. Paul offered the closing prayer, and after singing the hymn, "God be with You Till We Meet Again," the Rev. Mr. Cook pronounced the benediction.

The meeting was one of joy and profit to many, and expressions were heard as to what a good and blessed thing it would be if all the church people could get together oftener in such a manner.

On April 1 John G. Keyler, undertaker and dealer in furniture, will take his son, Charles A. Keyler, into partnership, and the firm will hereafter be styled John G. Keyler & Son.

ALL STOMACH TROUBLES

Value of Good Roads.

Bad roads force people to live in cities good roads tend to take them out into the country. This observation reveals its force perhaps more strikingly when read in view of the facts of railroad development, to which the especial attention of the American people has been given during the past forty years. The tion in the cities and larger towns, and Prof. Moses Coit Tyler, of Cornell. to broaden the areas of population and young men who intend to take up to relieve this congestion.

Railroads need better carriage roads for feeders; farmers need them for access to the railroads and to the cities manufacturers need them for access to less populous areas and for lower rents and for less cost of portage and transportation; merchants need them as an element to the cheapening of their wares: the people need them for the reduction of the expense of satisfying their wants and for the more efficient distribution of their activities.

All men work and plan, after supplying their own and tue immediate needs of their families, to leave a good inheritance to their children. All good citizens take into their plans of public expenditure the leaving of wise investments to the next generation. What wiser, surer and better inheritance can we leave to our sons and successors than good roads roads that can be preserved and used at little expense, and that endure both as monuments and as investments during the years and the centuries to come?—Albert A. Pope in The

The eleventh session of the Grand office Hours: 7 to 9 A. M., 1 to 3 P. M., after 7 P. M. Lodge, Knights and Ladies of Honor of New Jersey, will be held in this town on Tuesday, April 19. Representatives from fifty lodges from all parts of the State will attend. This will be the first time that a body of representatives of lodges all over the State have come to Bloomfield to transuct their business. The united lodges of Bloomfield and Montclair are making preparations to entertain their visitors in a royal manner, and have appointed the following committee of arrangements: John Causbrook, Chairman, of Eastern Star Lodge, Bloomfield; Max Koehler, General Secretary; Jennie Widman, Mary R. Causbrook, Eastern Star Lodge, Bloomfield; John Martini, John Weissman of Aurora Lodge, Bloomfield; Philip Keller and Bertha Wrensch of Northern Star Lodge, Montelair, and Mrs. Anna Jenkins of Covenant Lodge, Bloomfield.

The Grand Lodge session will be held in Wm J. Ranb's Hall at 10 A. M. and h the evening a reception will be given by the district lodges to the members of the Grand Lodge at Metz's Hall, for which complimentary tickets will be issued to the members of the order and their friends.

### An Explanation.

It was stated in THE CITIZEN last week that the special committee appointed to review the tax accounts, consisting of George W. Pancoast, George Zabriskie and Lewis K. Dodd, did not do anything in the matter. Exceptions are taken to that statement by the gentlemen. Mr Pancoast says that they endeavoied to get a statement from Mr. Marr, to compare with that furnished by Mr. Stevens. He called on Mr. Marr personally several times to get his statement, and urged Mr. Marr to hurry it along. Mr. Marr said that his counsel was preparing the statement. The committee waited several weeks expecting that when the statement was ready Mr. Marr or the Town Committee would notify them. The first intimation they had that the statement was completed was when they read in the papers that it had been brought before the Town Committee. They then expected to be called upon to examine the two statements, but the work of settling the differences has gone on, and they have been ignored. There was no opportunity afforded them to do anything in the matter.

The Methodist Conference.

The Newark Conference of the M. E. Church opens in Morristown on Wednesday next. There will be three sessions P. O. Box 286. a day. Somewhat over two hundred pastors are entertained for about a week, and on Friday each church in the Conference will be represented by a lay member at the election of lay delegate to the General Conference, which meets this year in Omaha, Neb.

Safe Deposit Boxes.

Safe deposit boxes will soon be placed in the Bloomfield National Bank. They will no doubt be a great convenience to many Bloomfielders, as the necessity for a place for the safekeeping securities, valuable papers, etc., has long been felt. A large number of boxes have already been engaged.

Mrs. Anna C. Draper died on Monday morning last at her residence, No. 18 Washington Avenue, Montelair. Her death, which was sudden, was caused by bronchial pneumonia. She was the widow of the late George G. Draper, and was well known in this town.

The regular monthly entertainment of the Epworth League will be held at the Methodist Church parlors on Monday evening. An attractive programme, has been arranged.

University Extension Conference.

A University Extension Conference will be held at Chautauqua during the week of July 18-23. All University Extension societies will be invited to send delegates. The exercises will consist of: (1.) Model course of daily lectures, quizzes, question papers, etc., illustrating the University Extension Method. One of these courses will be given by arranged them along their lines of (2.) Papers and discussions on various communication. Now what is needed is aspects of University Extension work. an equal development of carriage roads (3.) Lectures by men of experience to University Extension work. (4.) A platform evening meeting with short addresses. Delegates will be tendered the "freedom of the city," and every effort will be made to render the week not only helpful to the cause, but delightful to its friends.

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